

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated October 4, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one month set to expire on February 4, 2005. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Applicant files herewith a Petition for Correction of Inventorship under 37 CFR 1.48(b). Applicant therefore respectfully requests deletion of James E. Chitwood as an inventor in the application.


Claims 1-46 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-46 are rejected. Claims 2-5, 7-13, 15-41, and 43-46 have been canceled by Applicant without prejudice. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 1-46 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-46 of co-pending and co-owned U.S. Patent Application Number 10/678,731. The Examiner states that claims 1-46 of this application conflict with claims 1-46 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Number 10/678,731.

Applicant has canceled claims 2-5, 7-13, 15-41, and 43-46 of the current application, leaving only claims 1, 6, 14, and 42 pending in the application. In the Response to Office Action dated October 29, 2004 for the co-pending Application Number 10/678,731, Applicant amended the counterparts of these claims so that the same invention is not claimed in the current application as is claimed in U.S. Application Number 10/678,731. Applicant therefore respectfully requests removal of the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and examination of claims 1, 6, 14, and 42 by the Examiner.

In conclusion, having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,


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